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House of Representatives State of Tennessee

NASHVILLE

KAREN D. CAMPER

DEMOCRATIC FLOOR LEADER

COMMITTEES
ETHICS
TRANSPORTATION
FINANCE, WAYS & MEANS
FINANCE, WAYS & MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE

MEMBER
TN BLACK CAUCUS OF STATE
LEGISLATORS

August 25, 2014

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am a Tennessee State Representative, a retired Army officer, an educator, the owner of an artist management company, and a parent. I am writing in reference to the proposed Comcast and Time Warner Cable transaction. It is my hope that the Commission approves this proposal.

Comcast is a longtime investor in Tennessee. Since 1996, it has spent more than \$2 billion in facilities and infrastructure in our state. Approximately 2,000 Tennesseans work for Comcast, and state and local revenues from the taxes and fees the company pays were close to \$128 million last year.

Comcast employees are top donors to United Way campaigns. These dollars support numerous nonprofit and education initiatives in our state. In Memphis and Nashville, Comcast officials and employees volunteer on government, school and community group committees. They also give untold volunteer hours every year during the April Comcast Cares Day. This year's event featured inspired service for Hume's Prep School and community members, all facilitated by Comcast.

More than 17 percent of the Tennessee population lives below the poverty level. Many of these residents are children whose families lack home Internet service. Comcast started a service to remedy that in 2011.

I understand that the Comcast Internet Essentials program offers broadband service for \$9.95 a month to qualifying families whose children receive subsidized school lunches. Families may also choose to purchase a computer for \$150. Comcast includes free online or in-person computer and Internet training sessions with the service. In Memphis, we had close to 2,500 families take advantage of Internet Essentials in the first three years of the program and in Nashville, almost 3,800 families signed up. Across Tennessee, the total was more than 8,000 households.

Thousands of children are now able to complete online school assignments in their own home, instead of having to compete for limited time on community or library computers. Their parents are able to enroll in online education programs, apply for jobs and oversee their child's school-home interactions.

With my connection to the entertainment industry, I think it is also worth noting that Comcast's cable and video programming is outstanding. The rich and varied content, independent and minority-owned networks and the many educational and bilingual channels are meeting our residents' appetites for diverse entertainment. The company offers over 160 independently owned programming networks.

Please consider all of the above as you weigh the proposed transaction. I hope it receives your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen D. Camper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and last name "Camper" clearly distinguishable.

Karen D. Camper
TN House of Representatives, 87th District